

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 BRASIL 01441 241251Z

ACTION EB-08

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 ISO-00 MMO-04 SS-15 SP-02 PER-03 ABF-01

/044 W

-----241301 027023 /45

R 241130Z FEB 77

FM AMEMBASSY BRASILIA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0230

INFO AMCONSUL RIO DE JANEIRO

AMCONSUL SAO PAULO

UNCLAS BRASILIA 1441

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EMIN, ENRG, APER, AFSP, ABUD, BR

SUBJECT: REGIONAL RESOURCE OFFICER

REF: (A) STATE 18506; (B) 76 BRASILIA 8610;

(C) 76 STATE 245655

1. THE EMBASSY HAS GIVEN CAREFUL STUDY TO THE DEPARTMENT'S IDEA THAT THE EMBASSY'S RESOURCE OFFICER MIGHT COVER OTHER COUNTRIES BESIDES BRAZIL. THE EMBASSY HAS TAKEN INTO CONSIDERATION THE CHARACTERISTICS OF BRAZIL WHICH GIVE RISE TO A HEAVY BURDEN OF REPORTING AND REPRESENTATION RESPONSIBILITIES:

(A) THE SIZE AND VAST POTENTIAL OF BRAZIL'S MINERALS SECTOR, (B) THE SECTOR'S HIGH RATE EXPANSION (INVESTMENTS ON THE ORDER OF A BILLION DOLLARS A YEAR), (C) THE PROMINENT ROLE OF BRAZIL IN THE WORLD IRON ORE MARKET, A ROLE THAT COULD BECOME DOMINANT IN THE FUTURE, (D) THE PROSPECT THAT BRAZIL WILL TAKE A KEY PLACE IN THE WORLD BAUXITE/ALUMINUM MARKET, ONE OF PARTICULAR SENSITIVITY TO THE U.S.,

(E) THE LARGE NUMBER OF U.S. MINING COMPANIES OPERATING IN BRAZIL, (F) THE ADVENT OF PETROLUUM RISK-CONTRACTING IN BRAZIL, AND
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(G) THE LARGE BRAZILIAN MARKET FOR MINING EQUIPMENT AND TECHNOLOGY. COVERING THESE ACTIVITIES ALSO REQUIRES A GREAT DEAL OF TRAVEL TIME IN THIS CONTINENTAL-SIZED COUNTRY, SPREAD OVER ALMOST HALF SOUTH AMERICA. THERE IS, TOO, THE CRITICAL POINT THAT THE RESOURCE OFFICER IN BRAZIL CANNOT ALWAYS BE

EXPECTED TO SPEAK SPANISH AS WELL AS PORTUGUESE.

2. BASED ON THOSE CONSIDERATIONS, THE EMBASSY
HAS RECONFIRMED ITS EARLIER POSITION (REF B)
THAT THE RESOURCE OFFICER IN BRAZIL CANNOT
COVER OTHER COUNTRIES AND STILL GIVE ADEQUATE
ATTENTION TO BRAZIL.
CRIMMINS

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
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Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
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Executive Order: N/A
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